

January 17, 2019

Public Utilities Commission Nominating Council  
ATTN: Angela Hawkins,  
Nominating Council Coordinator  
c/o Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 E. Broad Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Dear Members of the Nominating Council:

The purpose of this transmittal letter is to apply for the position of Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") to fill the term commencing on April 11, 2019 and ending on April 10, 2024 or any other term that may be open.

On December 31, 2018, I retired from the law firm of McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC. For the prior forty-plus years, I have provided guidance to a broad range of clients including residential, commercial and industrial customers and, occasionally, cooperatives, municipally-owned and investor-owned utilities on questions affecting the price and availability of energy, transportation, water, waste water services and communications technology.

Prior to entering private practice in 1977, I served as a member of the PUCO's technical staff. As a technical staffer, I was, among other things, responsible for developing solutions to the natural gas supply shortages that dominated the 70's and providing assistance regarding compliance with federal natural gas pipeline safety requirements.

Upon graduating from law school, I was appointed to act as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio and was assigned to the Public Utilities Section of the Attorney General's Office where I served from 1975 to 1977. In this capacity, I represented the PUCO's staff in administrative hearings and the PUCO before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") and appellate courts including the Ohio Supreme Court and the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. While working at the PUCO, I also attended "camp NARUC" at Michigan State University.

Based on my education and my work experience, I believe I have at least three years of experience in several relevant disciplines including economics, accounting, law, finance and engineering.

I do not own or control any stocks or bonds of a regulated public utility.

I am a resident of the State of Ohio.

I am not affiliated with any political party.

A current resume is attached for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Samuel C. Randazzo  
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Columbus, Ohio 43206  
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PUCO

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## **Resume**

### **Samuel C. Randazzo**

#### **Education**

Cuyahoga Falls High School	1967
University of Akron, BS/BA Business	1971
ROTC <sup>1</sup>	1967-1969
Capital University Law School, JD	1975, Order of the Curia <sup>2</sup>
Michigan State University	1976, "camp NARUC" <sup>3</sup>
Continuing Legal Education	Ohio Supreme Court
Annual Ohio Ethics Training	Related to Nominating Council service

#### **Non-Legal Work/Other Experience**

Iron Worker, <sup>4</sup> Laborer and Truck Driver <sup>5</sup>	1966-1971 (finance education)
Busboy and Bartender <sup>6</sup>	1966-1971 (finance education)
PUCO Technical Staff	1972-1975 (finance education)
Albert R. Mugel National Moot Court <sup>7</sup>	1975
MISO Advisory Committee <sup>8</sup>	1997-2001

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<sup>1</sup> Two years of Reserve Officer Training Corp. ("ROTC") instruction was mandatory when I attended the University of Akron.

<sup>2</sup> The Order of the Curia is an award for outstanding academic achievement.

<sup>3</sup> The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ("NARUC") worked with Michigan State University to establish educational programs for regulators and its staff. These programs are sometimes referred to as "camp NARUC."

<sup>4</sup> As an iron worker, I worked on structural steel and reinforcing rod projects in Northeast, Ohio to pay for my education.

<sup>5</sup> As a laborer and truck driver, I worked on the construction of underground utility systems and, mostly for Ohio Bell Telephone, identifying the location of such systems.

<sup>6</sup> Most of my busboy and bartender work occurred at Northfield Racetrack as a result of me taking a second job to pay for my education.

<sup>7</sup> The Albert R. Mugel National Tax Moot Court Competition unites teams from law schools across the United States who compete in presenting appellate arguments on complex and thorny tax situations. Hosted by the University of Buffalo School of Law, the Mugel Competition is the oldest national tax moot court competition in the United States. Each year, the Mugel Competition gives law students from across the nation an opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency in oral advocacy and brief writing on a cutting-edge issue of federal tax law and policy. Another Capital Law School student and I participated in this competition, paying our own way and driving my VW to Buffalo, and we finished as one of the top three teams (to the best of my belief). In the year of our participation, the competition focused on tax issues related to a cash basis taxpayer's receipt of annuity payments. I found that the accounting and finance courses I completed at the University of Akron helped me significantly in this competition.

<sup>8</sup> The Midwest Independent System Operator ("MISO" – now the Midcontinent Independent System Operator) is a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC")-regulated regional transmission organization with an advisory committee that functions to provide MISO managers and Board members with stakeholder input. In 1997, the MISO footprint covered a large portion of Ohio and its development and functionality were important for purposes of implementing Ohio's electric restructuring legislation. My role on the MISO Advisory Committee was to represent the large retail customer sector. Currently, Ohio is entirely within the footprint of PJM Interconnection, LLC. ("PJM").

MEC Planning Committee <sup>9</sup>	1998-Present
Speaker's Appointee/PUCO Nominating Council <sup>10</sup>	2008-2019 (Secretary)
Board of Directors, Jazz Arts Group	2015-2018
Board of Directors, Condo Association	2018-Present

## Legal Work Experience

Legal Intern <sup>11</sup>	1973-1975
Assistant Attorney General	1975-1977 (PUCO Section <sup>12</sup> )
Associate & Partner, Bell & Clevenger	1977-1987 (public utilities and energy)
Partner, Kegler Brown Hill & Ritter	1987-1997 (public utilities and energy)
Partner, McNees Wallace & Nurick	1997-2017 (public utilities and energy)
Senior Counsel, McNees Wallace & Nurick <sup>13</sup>	2017-2018
General Counsel, Industrial Energy Users-Ohio <sup>14</sup>	1992-Present

## Authorizations to Practice Law (all in good standing)

All Ohio Courts	Year of Admission - 1975
Federal District Court, Southern District of Ohio	Year of Admission - 1976
D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals	Year of Admission - 1976
United States Supreme Court	Year of Admission - 1987

## Narrative

On December 31, 2018, I retired from the law firm of McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC. For the prior forty-plus years, I provided guidance to a broad range of clients including residential, commercial and industrial customers and, occasionally, cooperatives, municipally-owned and

<sup>9</sup> Since 1998, I have been actively and significantly involved in the establishment and development of the Manufacturers' Education Council's ("MEC") annual statewide and regional educational events for Ohio businesses. Through general and workshop sessions, these conferences help Ohio businesses address issues affecting the price and availability of energy. According to attendees, the annual Ohio energy conference is the biggest and best in the Nation thanks, in part, to the active participation of and support by customers, regulated utilities and competitive suppliers.

<sup>10</sup> I received continuous appointments to the PUCO Nominating Council from Ohio Speakers of the House affiliated with both the Democrat and Republican parties.

<sup>11</sup> As a legal intern, I participated in Capital University's Night Prosecutor Program and Franklin County criminal trials. The Night Prosecutor Program functions to resolve disputes outside of a formal legal process.

<sup>12</sup> During my tenure as an Assistant Attorney General, the PUCO Section was housed at the offices of the PUCO (various locations, including the PUCO's current offices at 180 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215).

<sup>13</sup> I have been regularly recognized as one of Ohio's best attorneys and have, for many years, held Martindale Hubbell's highest possible rating from both legal ability and ethical standards (a rating that is based on the opinions of members of the bar and judiciary).

<sup>14</sup> <http://ieuohio.org/>. While at McNees, I employed and managed persons with legal, technical (engineering and accounting) and government relations expertise. Our multi-disciplined team gave us the ability to address accounting, engineering and legal topics while our government relations capabilities helped us to effectively navigate the political environment which often surrounds energy, communications or utility issues. In addition to providing legal services and helping to manage the trade association, I also registered as a lobbyist (executive and legislative) for IEU-Ohio. Should I be selected to serve as a PUCO Commissioner, I will resign my General Counsel position and discontinue any involvement with the trade association.

investor-owned utilities most often on questions affecting the price and availability of energy, transportation, water and waste water services and communications technology. As a private practitioner in these areas, I have regularly been recognized as one of the best energy and public utility lawyers in Ohio and have annually received the highest ranking for competency and ethical behavior which is available from lawyer rating services.

Before entering and while in private practice, I have been significantly involved in most major energy or communications legislation that has been considered or enacted by the Ohio General Assembly.

Prior to entering private practice in 1977, I served as a member of the PUCO's technical staff under John Borrows, Director of the Utilities Department. As a technical staffer, I was, among other things, responsible for developing solutions to the natural gas supply shortages that dominated the 1970's and providing assistance to the PUCO on natural gas pipeline safety requirements and rules for water and waste water utilities. My work on natural gas issues included development of Ohio's innovative "self-help" program that allowed customers to drill their own wells and use the delivery capabilities of natural gas utilities to get their gas from the point of production to the point of utilization. Ohio's self-help program was the first of its kind in the Nation and the approach was eventually adopted at the federal level to bring new gas supplies into the market and address an anticompetitive industry structure.

Upon graduating from law school, I was appointed by William J. Brown to the position of Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio and was assigned to the Public Utilities Section of the Attorney General's Office where I served from 1975 to 1977. In this capacity, I represented the PUCO's staff in administrative hearings associated with contested natural gas, electricity, water, waste water and transportation cases, PUCO rulemakings and I represented the PUCO before FERC and appellate courts including the Ohio Supreme Court and the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. In this capacity, I also assisted with the development of the Gas Cost Recovery ("GCR") rule used by natural gas distribution companies for decades to recover their prudently incurred natural gas supply costs. While working at the PUCO, I also attended "camp NARUC" at Michigan State University (annual education program for state regulators and regulatory staff).

In 1977, I entered private practice by joining the Columbus, Ohio firm of Bell & Clevenger (later Bell & Randazzo and then Bell, Bentine & Randazzo). While at this law firm, I represented larger industrial and commercial customers and, on occasion, residential customers in PUCO proceedings. I also represented smaller gas utilities.

In 1987, I joined the Columbus, Ohio based law firm of Kegler, Brown Hill & Ritter and I remained focused on representation of consumers and smaller gas utilities before the PUCO and FERC. While with this law firm, I also represented Time Warner with regard to its efforts to provide voice, video and data services in Ohio as a Competitive Local Exchange Company ("CLEC").

In 1992, I helped to form a trade association, the Industrial Energy Users-Ohio ("IEU-Ohio"), to more effectively address issues affecting the price and availability of energy consumed by Ohio businesses and was selected as General Counsel, a position I continue to hold.

In 1997, I opened the Columbus, Ohio office of the firm of McNees Wallace & Nurick which is based in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and I remained focused on representation of consumers before the PUCO and FERC. My migration to McNees Wallace & Nurick reflected changes in law and policy that increased the importance of being effectively engaged on energy issues at the state, regional and federal levels. After joining McNees Wallace & Nurick, I served on the advisory committee of what is now the Midcontinent Independent System Operator ("MISO") in the capacity of the representative of large customers with facilities located in MISO's footprint and I actively participated in FERC proceedings related to the development of the wholesale electric market and the role of regional transmission organizations.

For close to a decade, I served on the PUCO Nominating Council as the appointee of the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives. My appointment to this position spans multiple Speakers with different political affiliations (Republican and Democrat).

In addition to my work experience and education, I have often shared my knowledge with customers, regulators at the local, state and federal level, legislators and other public officials to help them make more informed decisions in a "good government" context. For example, more than twenty years ago, I helped to create the largest annual customer-focused energy conference in the United States which is put on in Columbus, Ohio each year through the Manufacturers' Education Council.

Based on my education and my work experience, I believe I have at least three years of experience in several relevant disciplines including economics, accounting, law, finance and engineering.

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